

## **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 9, 2007**

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on Monday, July 9, 2007 in Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

President Lesser called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

The following Commissioners were present for roll call:

President Lesser  
Vice President Duba  
Commissioner Davalos  
Commissioner Freeman  
Commissioner Jernigan  
Commissioner Rodriguez

Introduction of the audience followed.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Lesser reported the following:

- Attended the California Black Women's Health Project Awards Breakfast at the City Club in Los Angeles. Activities included poetry reading and artistic dance.

### **STAFF REPORT**

Staff reported the following:

- Reminded Commissioners that the Governor's Conference is rapidly approaching and those interested in attending would need to contact Commission staff by the end of the day.
- Distributed a revised Committee Structure handout reflecting changes received from the Commissioners. Please advise Commission staff of any additional changes.

### **REPORT ON THE ACCW MEETING HELD ON JUNE 8-9, 2007**

President Lesser and Commissioner Davalos reported the following items discussed at the Association of California Commissions for Women (ACCW) meeting:

- The Glendale Commission on the Status of Women is starting a mentoring program and has received a total of \$25,000 in grants. They also have a training program on finance for at risk girls titled *Rosie Goes to Wall Street*.
- The ACCW will be focusing on strengthening advocacy for women in California and has requested all California Commissions for Women to identify issues and advocate as a group for them.

- The ACCW is committed to support the Cut It Out Program and at the next meeting on August 3, 2007 a process for the commitment will be addressed.
- The Los Angeles City Commission will be hosting the Convention in May 2008.
- The Women's Equality Parade will be on August 25, 2007.
- Every year there is a Legislative Day in Sacramento that is attended by Commissioners from all over the state. Next year the event will possibly happen in conjunction with the Women's Equality Parade.

### **INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

Richard Velasquez , Assistant Chief of Staff, Fourth District, swore in Charlotte Lesser as President for 2007-08. Fifth District Deputy Helen Barberian swore in Reiko Duba as Vice President for 2007-08, and Renita Bowlin, Second District Deputy, swore in Ruth V. Creary, Ph.D. as Treasurer for 2007-08.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2007**

On motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Treasurer Creary with Vice-President Duba abstaining, and duly carried, the minutes of June 25, 2007 were approved with the following corrections:

- Page 4, 1st Paragraph, add *Commissioner Freeman noted the on going problem of low-birth weight black babies and cited successful projects in the Antelope Valley due to additional funding. She recommended further action County-wide to address this. President Lesser will bring these findings to the attention of the Office of Women's Health.*
- Page 5, 1<sup>st</sup> Paragraph, change *Cal-works ladies* women...~~These ladies~~ women...

### **PURCHASE UP TO FIVE TICKETS FOR THE CENTER FOR THE PACIFIC ASIAN FAMILY 29<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2007 AT THE GILMORE ADOBE FOR \$100.00 EACH**

On motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Commissioner Davalos and unanimously carried, the Commission approved to purchase up to five tickets for the Center for Pacific Asian Family 29<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Thursday, September 20, 2007 at the Gilmore Adobe for \$100.00 each.

### **UPDATE ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> DISTRICT COMMUNITY MEETING**

Treasurer Creary and Commissioner Jernigan reported that there are two potential dates for the meeting, August 27<sup>th</sup> or September 24<sup>th</sup>. Supervisor Burke is available on these two dates. Vice President Duba suggested that the meeting be held on the date after the 5K. Treasurer Creary also reported that the event will be held in South Los Angeles and will be about health care and accessing County services. There will be a

variety of handouts and publications as well as a mobile health van. Commissioner Freeman suggested inviting all scholarship recipients to the meeting. Commissioner Davalos requested that a budget for the meeting be on a future agenda.

### **INTRODUCTION OF DEPUTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER ROBIN GUERRERO AND BRIEF DISCUSSION OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE GOVERNANCE REPORT**

Robin Guerrero, Deputy Executive Officer, presented a brief background on her work assignments with the Board of Supervisors. She also gave an overview of the changes in the agenda process and the redesign of the agenda structure. She further explained the "cluster" structure and the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Position. Currently the agendas are light and the new structure is being worked through. The agenda can be described as similar to a consent calendar and if an item does not need to be discussed by the Board than it will go through the consent calendar. Board Operations used to be the beginning point of the agenda process and now it is the end. All Board letters will go to the CEO first and this will also effect County departments because they will need to advance their deadlines. She also shared that a future a study is being done on where Commissions should be aligned or connected to.

(Commissioner Becerra-Jones arrived at 10:50 a.m.)

The Board had one meeting last week where the tested the new agenda process and it will be tested again on July 10, 2007. Lastly, she shared that the Board is currently interviewing candidates for the CEO position.

### **UPDATE ON THE 5K RUN/WALK**

Vice President Duba reported that the June 25, 2007 meeting was well attended. The committee discussed the potential for more attendees and the need for more t-shirts and other items. She also shared that the first fitness class was held on June 28, 2007 with the deputies and staff. In addition to the fitness classes, there will be free training on running or walking every Sunday, starting on July 15, 2007 at Griffith Park.

In honor of Ernie Van Leeuwen, his widow, Nina, will be presented with a scroll from Supervisor Yaroslavsky at the 5K. Ms. Van Leeuwen will also be invited to a future Commission meeting.

Commissioner Freeman, Media Committee Chair, suggested having a human interest story on Vice President Duba. She also suggested having this information on the website along with Ernie Van Leeuwen bio. Commissioner Freeman requested that all press releases be emailed to the Commissioners and committee members

### **UPDATE ON ANNUAL RETREAT**

Commissioner Becerra-Jones distributed copies of the results of the retreat survey. The retreat will be on Monday, August 13, 2007. The Committee will meet to decide the

location and agenda topics. A survey will be sent out seeking input on topics for discussion and once the agenda is drafted it will be emailed to the Commissioners prior to the retreat.

Commissioner Freeman suggested that any potential changes or any information be shared with the Commissioners prior to the retreat to allow time to work on suggestions. Vice President Duba commented that all participants need to be committed to staying the duration of the retreat. Commissioner Jernigan commented that she preferred to have the retreat at the Cathedral to save travel time.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Older Women's:** Pat Wilson reported that the committee will meet today at 1:30 p.m. She also commented that she visited Commissioner Mummey and she is doing well.

**Health:** President Lesser reported that the committee had a teleconference on June 27, 2007 and discussed King-Harbor and updates on the situation. Commissioner Jernigan shared that she viewed a news conference with the Antonia Epps, Director, stating that she was confident that the hospital would pass federal inspection. Commissioner Jernigan distributed a Los Angeles Times news article regarding affordable health care plans in Massachusetts.

**Domestic Violence:** Commissioner Rodriguez distributed a flyer with information on an upcoming film produced by Free Battered Women about six domestic violence survivors. The screening will take place on Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at the UCLA Law School.

**Gender Equity:** Commissioner Davalos will be scheduling a committee meeting next week. She also shared a press release from the Office of Senator Sheila Kuehl regarding the 3-Year Anniversary of the Family Leave Program.

**Legislative:** Commissioner Jernigan reported the Primary to fill the seat of the late Congresswomen Juanita Millender-McDonald was held in June. Laura Richardson won the Primary and will continue to the August Special Election.

**Media/Public Relations:** Commissioner Freeman reported that the Media Committee will participate in a joint meeting with the 5K Run/Walk Committee on July 23, 2007. Commissioner Freeman would like the Commission to follow up to ensure that Committee members consistently receive minutes and agendas of the Committee meetings.

**Education:** No report.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Reverend Kurt Freeman suggested that the Older Women's conference have a workshop on seniors, activities of daily living and the disengagement theory.

Pat Wilson shared that the City Council on Aging in conjunction with the County has a checklist on caregiving.

Geneviève Clavreul commented on a recent Channel 7 news piece on King-Harbor that was full of errors and misrepresentations.

Reverend Lorna Crosse thanked staff for keeping her informed on the Health Committee activities and she requested that the Health committee minutes reflect that she is a member of the committee. She also reported that she attended the First A.M.E. event and spoke with Janice Resnick. Reverend Crosse would like the Commission to invite Ms. Resnick to give a presentation at a future meeting.

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Jernigan shared a thank you letter from Supervisor Burke for supporting the Aquatic Foundation of Metropolitan Los Angeles Salute to Champions event.

President Lesser shared a thank you letter from the Rowell Foster Children's Positive Plan for supporting their recent event. She also shared an invitation for the installation of Ruth V. Creary, Ph.D., Sixty-ninth President of the Auxiliary to the National Medical Association, Incorporated on August 9, 2007 in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Treasurer Creary attended the California Black Women's Health Project Breakfast honoring Author and Health Advocate, Bebe Moore Campbell (posthumously); Actress Wendy Raquel Robinson, Debbie Pattillo, Director Community Relations, American Airlines and Jacquie Stephens, News/Public Affairs Director, 102.3 FM/KJLH at the City Club in Los Angeles.

### **MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA (to be presented and placed on a future agenda):**

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

### **ATTENDANCE**

#### **COMMISSIONERS**

Charlotte Lesser, President  
Reiko Duba, Vice President  
Ruth Creary, Ph.D., Treasurer  
Yolanda Becerra-Jones  
Karin Davalos  
Peggy Freeman  
Ruth Jernigan  
Olivia Rodriguez

**EXCUSED**

Janet Mummey, Esq.  
Wadie Gravely  
Michelle Pinedo  
Bobbi Jean Tanberg  
Elise ZeBrack

**UNEXCUSED**

**COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES**

Robin Guerrero, Rhonda Rangel, Nyla Jefferson, and Twila Kerr, Executive Office  
Rick Velasquez, Gail Tierney, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Helen Barberian, 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Renita Bowlin, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Elaine Rodriguez, OAAC

**GUESTS**

Geneviève Clavreul  
Kurt Freeman  
Pat Wilson  
Lorna Crosse